

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT O 02307 121943Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
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R 121200Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1085  
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 2307

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW), PFOR, UN, GY, US, EAID, SHUM  
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S MEETING WITH GUYANESE PRIME  
MINISTER BURNHAM AND CABINET MEMBERS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ON AUGUST 10 AMBASSADOR YOUNG, CHARGE  
BLACKEN AND OTHERS IN THE PARTY M2.V  
P ZRNJKGIMINISTER  
BURNHAM, FOREIGN MINISTER WILLS AND OTHER CABINET MEMBERS  
DURING A CORDIAL SESSION WHICH RANGED OVER THE FOLLOWING  
SUBJECTS: PROGRESS ON THE PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS AND  
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, PRESIDENT NYERERE'S VISIT, US/CARIBBEAN  
POLICY, HUMAN RIGHTS, GUYANA'S INTEREST IN BILATERAL  
AND MULTILATERAL AID AND TRADE QUESTIONS. END SUMMARY

2. ON AUGUST 10, AMBASSADOR YOUNG, CHARGE BLACKEN, DEPUTY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHELTON, ARA/PPC DIRECTOR EINAUDI,  
LA AID ADMINISTRATOR VALDEZ, NSC INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC  
OFFICER HORMATS AND STAFF MEMBERS MET WITH PRIME  
MINISTER BURNHAM, FOREIGN MINISTER WELLS, UN AMBASSADOR  
JACKSON, AMBASSADOR TO JAMAICA TALBOT, MINISTER OF ENERGY  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES JACKS, MINISTER OF FINANCE HOPE,  
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PAGE 02 PORT O 02307 121943Z

MINISTER OF HEALTH, HOUSING AND LABOR GREEN AND THE  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

3. GENERAL. YOUNG DISCUSSED PROGRESS ON THE PANAMA  
CANAL NEGOTIATIONS AND SAID THAT THE MEETING BETWEEN  
PRESIDENT CARTER AND NYERERE HAD GONE VERY WELL. THERE HAS  
BEEN PROGRESS ON BOTH NAMIBIA AND ZIMBABWE. NYERERE IS

CALLING THE SHOTS WITH THE PRESIDENT IN AGREEMENT. IN RESPONSE TO BURNHAM'S QUERY IF YOUNG WASN'T BEING UNDULY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, YOUNG AGREED BUT THEN EXPLAINED THE BASIS FOR HIS OPTIMISM (ALONG LINES ALREADY REPORTED).

4. THE CARIBBEAN. YOUNG DESCRIBED THE PURPOSES OF HIS VISIT AND HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE TRIP SO FAR. HE AND VALDEZ DISCUSSED US AND IMF ASSISTANCE TO JAMAICA. YOUNG EXPLAINED THAT A REGIONAL COALITION MAKES SENSE AS A WAY OF PROVIDING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN. FIRST IT MAKES IT EASIER FOR US TO COME UP WITH FUNDS (BY MATCHING FUNDS FROM OTHER DONORS)--WITHOUT THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL PROBLEMS THAT BILATERAL AID TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES PRESENTS, AND, SECOND, IT REMOVES THE STIGMA OF COMPROMISING INTERNAL POLITICS WHICH BILATERAL AID SOMETIMES CARRIES. THE CARIBBEAN IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORT TO THE US BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL TIES AND THE STRENGTH OF THE DEMOCRATIC TRADITION IN THE AREA.

5. HUMAN RIGHTS. YOUNG EMPHASIZED THE SINCERITY OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND DESCRIBED THE GREAT CHANGES THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN US POLITICS. BURNHAM POINTED OUT THAT ECONOMIC RIGHTS ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS THAT WE HAVE BEEN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PORT O 02307 121943Z

TALKING ABOUT.

6. AID. IN RESPONSE TO BURNHAM'S EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, VALDEZ POINTED OUT THAT, WHILE WE COULD HELP WITH FEEDER ROADS AND DEFENSES AGAINST SEA EROSION (BECAUSE OF THEIR IMPACT ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT), WE COULD NOT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION. BURNHAM ALSO ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF UNTYING ASSISTANCE AND WAS TOLD THAT THERE IS SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THIS MATTER.

7. WORLD BANK. BURNHAM ASKED IF THE US CONTROLS THE WORLD BANK AND NOTED THAT IF GUYANA GETS THE GREEN LIGHT FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF THE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, HE THINKS IT CAN BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED. YOUNG SAID THAT WE HAVE TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE WITH THE WORLD BANK AND THAT WE CAN HELP GUYANA IN ITS RELATIONS WITH IT.

8. TRADE. NOTING THAT WE ARE PAYING LESS THAN WHAT IT COSTS TO PRODUCE SUGAR, BURNHAM ASKED ABOUT US SUGAR POLICY. THE US MADE GUYANA A SUGAR PRODUCER BUT IS NOW OVER-PRODUCING. IN RESPONSE HORMATS INDICATED THAT OUR

SUGAR PRODUCERS AND GUYANA'S FACED SIMILAR PROBLEMS AND OUTLINED US EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION TO COMMODITY PRICE FLUCTUATIONS WHICH DEALT WITH OUR PRODUCERS PROBLEM IN A WAY WHICH WAS SENSITIVE TO THIRD WORLD CONCERNS. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO AVOID QUOTAS IN FAVOR OF AN INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT, AND HAVE MADE CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS TOWARD THIS END. BLACKEN AND HORMATS NOTED THAT THE SOLUTION TO THE GLOBAL SUGAR PROBLEM LIES IN AN INTERNATIONAL SUGAR AGREEMENT.

9. PRIVATE MEETING. BURNHAM THEN MET PRIVATELY WITH YOUNG (REPORTED SEPTTEL).  
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## Message Attributes

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